

IC 20-12-21.9

Chapter 21.9. Nursing Scholarship Fund

IC 20-12-21.9-1

"Approved institution of higher learning"

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "approved institution of higher learning" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-12-21-3.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.

IC 20-12-21.9-2

"Commission"

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the state student assistance commission established under IC 20-12-21-4.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.

IC 20-12-21.9-3

"Fund"

Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the nursing scholarship fund.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.

IC 20-12-21.9-4

Establishment of fund; source

Sec. 4. (a) The nursing scholarship fund is established:

- (1) to encourage and promote qualified individuals to pursue a career in nursing in Indiana; and
- (2) in recognition of the fact that there is a shortage of nurses in Indiana.

(b) The fund consists of the following:

- (1) Appropriations by the general assembly.
- (2) Gifts to the fund.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.

IC 20-12-21.9-5

Administration; investments

Sec. 5. (a) The commission shall administer the fund.

(b) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds. Interest that accrues from those investments shall be deposited in the fund.

(d) Money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.

IC 20-12-21.9-6

Scholarships

Sec. 6. (a) The money in the fund shall be used to provide annual scholarships to nursing students who qualify by demonstrating a

financial need and meeting the requirements listed under section 8 of this chapter in an amount that is equal to the lesser of the following amounts:

(1) The balance of the student's total cost of tuition or fees in attending the eligible institution for the academic year.

(2) Five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

(b) A scholarship awarded under subsection (a) may be used only for the payment of tuition or fees that are:

(1) approved by the approved institution of higher learning that awards the scholarship; and

(2) not otherwise payable under any other scholarship or form of financial assistance specifically designated for tuition or fees.

(c) Subject to section 7(c) of this chapter, each scholarship awarded under subsection (a) is renewable under section 8(b) of this chapter for a total number of terms that does not exceed the eight (8) full-time (or part-time equivalent) semesters, or twelve (12) full-time (or part-time equivalent) quarters.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.

IC 20-12-21.9-7

Eligibility information; allocation of money; criteria; restrictions

Sec. 7. (a) The commission for higher education shall provide the commission with the most recent information concerning the number of nursing students enrolled at each eligible institution.

(b) The commission shall allocate the available money from the fund to each approved institution of higher learning that has a nursing program in proportion to the number of nursing students enrolled at each eligible institution based upon the information received by the commission under subsection (a).

(c) Each approved institution of higher learning shall determine the scholarship recipients under this chapter based upon the criteria set forth in section 8 of this chapter and the rules adopted by the commission under section 10 of this chapter. In addition, the approved institution of higher learning shall consider the need of the applicant when awarding scholarships under this chapter.

(d) The approved institution of higher learning may not grant a scholarship renewal to a student for an academic year that ends later than six (6) years after the date the student received the initial scholarship under this chapter.

(e) Any funds that:

(1) are allocated to an approved institution of higher learning; and

(2) are not utilized for scholarships under this chapter;

shall be returned to the commission for reallocation by the commission to any other eligible institution in need of additional funds.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.

IC 20-12-21.9-8

Scholarship qualifications

Sec. 8. (a) To initially qualify for a scholarship from the fund, a nursing student must:

- (1) be admitted to an approved institution of higher learning as a full-time or part-time nursing student;
- (2) agree, in writing, to work as a nurse in any type of health care setting in Indiana for at least two (2) years following graduation;
- (3) meet any other minimum criteria established by the commission; and
- (4) demonstrate a financial need for the scholarship.

(b) To qualify for a scholarship renewal from the fund, a nursing student must:

- (1) comply with the criteria set forth in subsection (a);
- (2) maintain at least the cumulative grade point average:
 - (A) that is required by an approved institution of higher learning for admission to the approved institution of higher learning; or
 - (B) equivalent to 2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale, as established by the approved institution of higher learning, if the institution's nursing program does not require a certain minimum cumulative grade point average; and
- (3) demonstrate a continuing financial need for the scholarship.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.

IC 20-12-21.9-9

Records; information

Sec. 9. (a) The commission shall maintain complete and accurate records in implementing the program, including the following:

- (1) Scholarships awarded under this chapter.
- (2) The number of individuals who fulfilled the agreement described under section 8(a)(2) of this chapter.
- (3) The number of individuals who did not fulfill the agreement described under section 8(a)(2) of this chapter.

(b) Each eligible institution shall provide the commission with information concerning the following:

- (1) The awarding of scholarships under this chapter.
- (2) The academic progress made by each recipient of a scholarship under this chapter.
- (3) Other pertinent information requested by the commission.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.

IC 20-12-21.9-10

Rules

Sec. 10. The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 necessary to carry out this chapter, including rules governing the enforcement of the agreements under section 8(a)(2) of this chapter.

As added by P.L.118-1990, SEC.12.